

1 CLAIMS

2 1. A device for preparing seam allowances in a seam cloth having a front, a back, a length
3 between the front and back, and a thin side forming a seam allowance with a thin end, and an
4 expanded sew cord comprised of a fold in the seam cloth enclosing a cord said seem cord being
5 opposite the seam allowance thin end and said thin end fitting within a fold in a base cloth for use
6 with a stitching machine that stitches the base cloth fold sequentially from front to back as the
7 seam cloth is fed forward with the seam allowance then end folded into the base cloth into the
8 stitching machine said device comprising:

9 a) a holding means with a front and back for sequentially feeding the sew cord along its length
10 while frictionally holding the sew cord on at least two sides and releasing the sew cord as the sew
11 cord feeds forward through the holding means from back to front;

12 b) a measuring means for measuring the end of the seam allowance relative to the holding
13 means.

14 2. The invention of claim 1 wherein the measuring means further comprises a cutting means
15 for aligning a cutting blade with the thin end.

16 3. The invention of claim 2 wherein the holding means comprises a body (49) having a
17 length and a width and a front and a back and wherein the width defines a left edge on a first side
18 and having a base and wherein the base describes at least one notch running along the base the
19 length of body (49) from front to back and wherein the measuring means is comprised of the left
20 edge.

21 4. The invention of claim 3 wherein the at least one notch is approximately the same size as
22 the sew cord.

23 5. The invention of claim 3 wherein the distance between the at least one notch and the left

1 edge is equal to the length of the seam allowance.

2 6. The invention of claim 5 wherein the base defines a plurality of notches comprised of the
3 at least one notch and at least one second notch and wherein the distance between the at least one
4 notch and the left edge is different from the distance between the at least one second notch and
5 the left edge.

6 7. The invention of claim 6 wherein the body comprises a right edge and wherein the
7 distance between the at least one notch and the left edge is different from the at least one second
8 notch and the right edge and wherein the measuring means further comprised of the right edge.

9 8. The invention of claim 7 wherein there are at least four notches and wherein the four
10 notches are, respectively, approximately 1/4" and 3/8" from the left edge and 1/2" and 1" from
11 the right edge.

12 9. The invention of claim 3 wherein the body is transparent.

13 10. The invention of claim 3 wherein the edge defines a step so that a cutting blade may run
14 along the step and extend downward along the edge.

15 11. The invention of claim 10 wherein the body has a center between the front and back and
16 wherein the edge and step run from the front of the body to the back of the body.

17 12. The invention of claim 2 further comprising a cutting means for cutting the seam
18 allowance at the end of the seam allowance as the seam cord feeds through the holding means.

19 13. The invention of claim 12 wherein the cutting means is at least one blade attached to the
20 holding means.

21 14. The invention of claim 12 wherein the cutting means is at least one blade attached to the
22 stitching machine.

23 15. The invention of claim 1 wherein the stitching means further comprises at least one tooth

1 dog means for feeding the cloth forward through the holding means.

2 16. The invention of claim 15 wherein the stitching machine has a foot post means for
3 holding a foot and at least one needle means for stitching thread through the cloth and wherein
4 the holding means is attached to the foot post means.

5 17. The invention of claim 16 wherein the foot post means further comprises a means for
6 changing the seam allowance by moving the holding means relative to the end of the seam
7 allowance.

8 18. The invention of claim 1 wherein the foot post means further comprises a means for
9 changing the seam allowance by moving the holding means relative to the needle of the stitching
10 means.

11 19. The invention of claim 16 wherein the foot post means further comprises a means for
12 changing the seam allowance by moving the holding means relative to the cutting means.

13 20. The invention of claim 3 wherein the body comprises a top and a bottom and wherein the
14 body defines at least one body slot passing from the top to the bottom of the body and wherein
15 the distance between the notch and the slot is equal to location of the sew cord stitch.

16 21. The invention of claim 3 wherein the body comprises a top and a bottom and wherein the
17 body defines at least one body slot passing from the top to the bottom of the body and wherein
18 the distance between the notch and the slot is equal to location of the base stitch from the notch.

19 22. The invention of claim 3 wherein the body comprises a top and a bottom and wherein the
20 body defines at least one body slot passing from the top to the bottom of the body and wherein
21 the distance between the notch and the slot is equal to the location of the thin edge.

22 23. A process for producing seam allowances in a cloth of a desired length comprising the
23 steps of:

1 1) holding the sew cord below a body having a length and a width, said defining a notch
2 along the length of the body so that the sew cord is held within the notch;

3 2) cutting the seam cloth at the seam allowance from the edge of the body.

4 24. The process of claim 23 further comprising the step of moving the sew cord forward
5 along within the notch and repeating steps 1-2 and then repeating all of the steps until the desired
6 length is obtained.

7 25. The process of claim 23 wherein the step of cutting comprises the step of cutting the seam
8 allowance at the edge of the body.

9 26. The process of claim 25 further comprising the step of simultaneously cutting the seam
10 allowance and sewing the cord within a fold of the seam allowance cloth.

11 27. The process of claim 25 further comprising the step of sequentially sewing the cord
12 within a fold of the seam allowance cloth and cutting the edge of the seam allowance.

13 28. The process of claim 27 further comprising the step of sequentially sewing the seam
14 allowance within a fold of the base material.

15 29. The process of claim 28 further comprising the step of feeding the seam allowance and
16 base cloth between stitching a feeder means.